



**HOME CONFERENCE  
DOORKNOCKER AWARDS  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CONSORTIUM, CALIFORNIA**

**AWARD CATEGORY:** Tenant Based Rental Assistance

**COMMUNITY:** San Diego County Consortium, California

**PROJECT/PROGRAM NAME:** Emancipated Foster Youth Tenant Based Rental Assistance

**HUD REGION/FIELD OFFICE:** Region IX / Los Angeles Field Office

**HOME UNITS/TOTAL UNITS:** 52 units each year

**HOME FUNDS/TOTAL FUNDS:** \$415,000 in HOME funds each year

**PARTNERS:**

- Housing Authority of the County of San Diego
- San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, Independent Living Skills Program

**FUNDING SOURCES:**

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| • HOME                           | \$415,000 each year |
| • State of California            | \$100,000 each year |
| • HHSA Independent Living Skills | 2 caseworkers       |

**BRIEF NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:**

This program demonstrates how an underserved target population can be assisted by a well-designed and operated tenant-based rental assistance program.

The San Diego County Consortium identified that each year approximately 200 youth “age out” of the foster care system and face the daunting prospect of homelessness in San Diego County. These young adults face many challenges in becoming self-sufficient adults. One of the greatest is finding a place to live.

Recognizing a need for a program that addresses the housing needs of the emancipated foster youth population, the county's Department of Housing and Community Development partnered with its Health and Human Services Agency to administer a program that provides tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services to this underserved population.

To be eligible for the program, a youth must be in the process of transitioning out of the foster care system and have a legal source of income that is 50 percent or less of area median income. Preferences are given to youth who are experiencing numerous barriers in accessing independent housing in the community and need support networks and case management services to live independently.

This collaborative effort has met with great success. The program was leased to capacity within a 120-day period. Due to the demand for this program, the county has allocated funds to increase the program size to assist 32 additional youth.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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